

# INTRODUCTION

## Purpose and Scope

This edition of the *Voting Assistance Guide* is designed to help the following persons participate in U.S. primary and general elections during 2002 and 2003 even though they may not be able to vote in person at the polls:

- Members of the U.S. Uniformed Services, which includes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
- Members of the U.S. merchant marine;
- Family members of the above;
- U.S. Citizens residing outside the U.S.

## Sources of Assistance

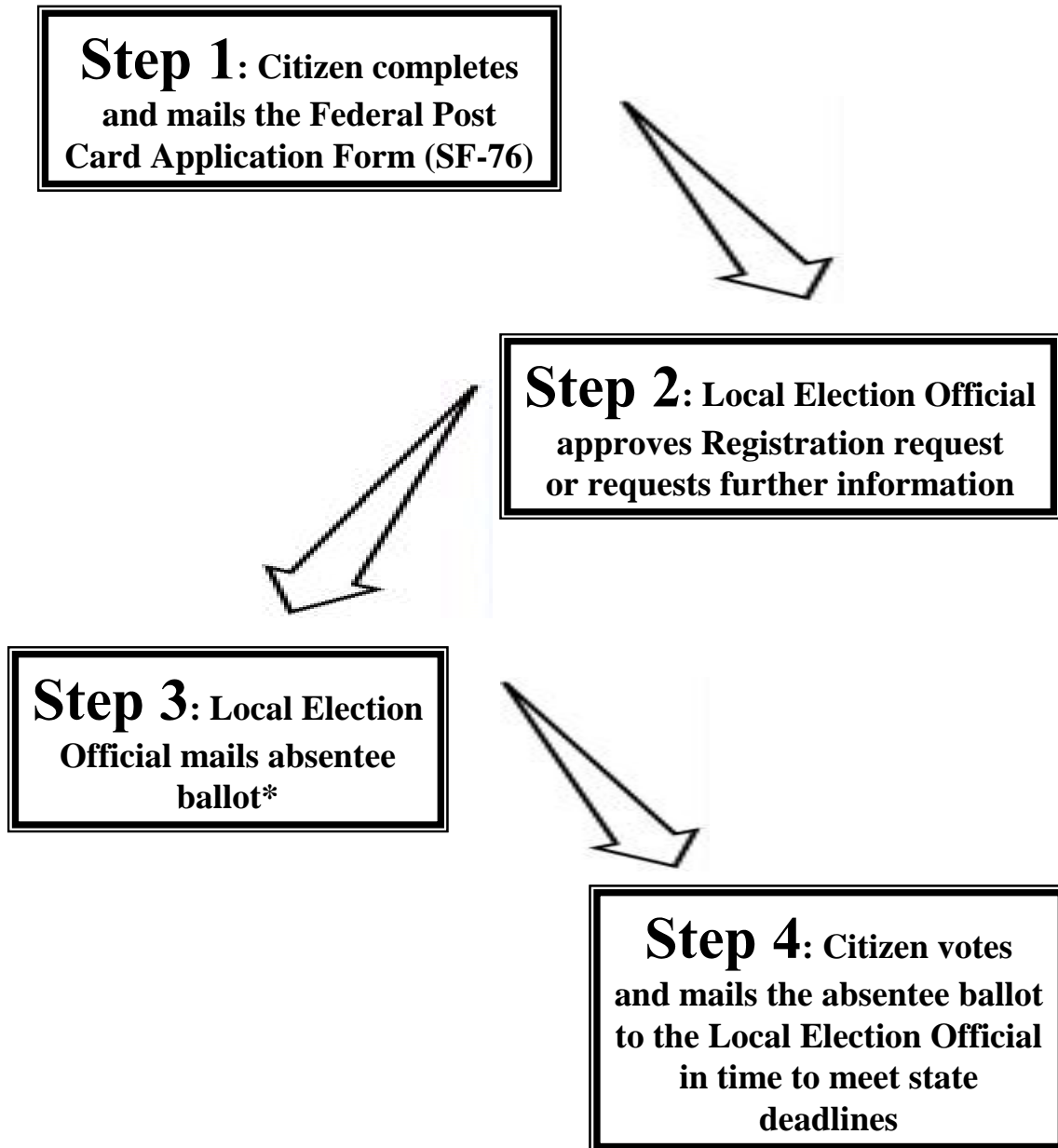
Absentee voting information in this *Guide* is current through September 2001. Procedures or primary election dates that change after publication will be updated through the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) World Wide Web site at [www.fvap.ncr.gov](http://www.fvap.ncr.gov) as they are received. These changes are also disseminated by voting news releases distributed to voting assistance personnel in all Federal government departments and agencies with voting assistance programs. The same channels will be used to disseminate information about special and other elections.

In addition, the Voting Information Center (VIC) provides a 24 hour recorded service with information on current and upcoming elections, recorded messages from incumbent U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, State Governors and State Chief Election Officials. Thirty days prior to an election, messages from Congressional and Gubernatorial candidates are also available. The VIC telephone numbers are (800) 438-8683, (703) 588-1343 or DSN 425-1343. The VIC can also be called toll-free from overseas on any of the numbers listed on the inside back cover.

Each Military Department, the Coast Guard, and the Department of State has a Voting Action Officer to assist unit Voting Assistance Officers and Embassy/Consulate Voting Assistance Officers with any questions or problems they may have concerning voting. The following information will help you contact your Voting Action Officer:

<b>ARMY</b> James Davis HQDA (TAPC-PDO-IP) ATTN: Voting Program Coordinator Hoffman Building #2, Room 3S49 200 Stovall Street Alexandria, VA 22332-0474 DSN 221-4530 (703) 325-4530 FAX (703) 325-4532 davisj@hoffman.army.mil	<b>NAVY</b> John Hillis Navy Personnel Command (PERS-6662) 5720 Integrity Drive ATTN: Voting Action Officer Millington, TN 38055-6000 DSN 882-4369 (901) 874-4369 1-800-368-5056 FAX (901) 874-2689 John.Hillis@persnet.navy.mil	<b>AIR FORCE</b> TSgt Sophia Barnard HQ AFPC/DPSF ATTN: Voting Action Officer 550 C Street West, Suite 35 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4737 DSN 665-2563 (210) 565-2563 1-800-558-1404 1-800-558-1404 DSN FAX 665-2543 FAX (210) 565-2543 Sophia.Barnard@afpc.randolph.af.mil
<b>MARINE CORPS</b> GySgt Kenneth B. Warford CMC (MHP), HQ Marine Corps ATTN: Voting Action Officer Manpower & Reserve Affairs Code (MRP) 3280 Russell Road Quantico, VA 22134-5103 DSN 278-9511 (703) 784-9511 FAX DSN 278-9828 FAX (703) 784-9827 warfordkb@manpower.usmc.mil	<b>COAST GUARD</b> Commandant (G-WPM-1) U.S. Coast Guard ATTN: Voting Action Officer MCPO Jeff Creighton 2100 2nd Street S.W., Room 5500 Washington, D.C. 20593-0001 (202) 267-1636 FAX (202) 267-4823 jcreighton@comdt.uscg.mil	<b>DEPARTMENT OF STATE</b> Jack Markey, Chief Office of Overseas Citizens Service 2201 C Street, N.W., Room 4811 Washington, D.C. 20520 (202) 736-4937 FAX (202) 647-6201 MarkeyJD@state.gov  Stuart Denyer, Deputy (202) 607-3495 Denyersr@state.gov

# **The Basic Absentee Voting Process**



\* In order to receive an absentee ballot in a timely manner, it is imperative for citizens to keep their local election official informed of address changes.